

The NHLBI Loan Repayment Program

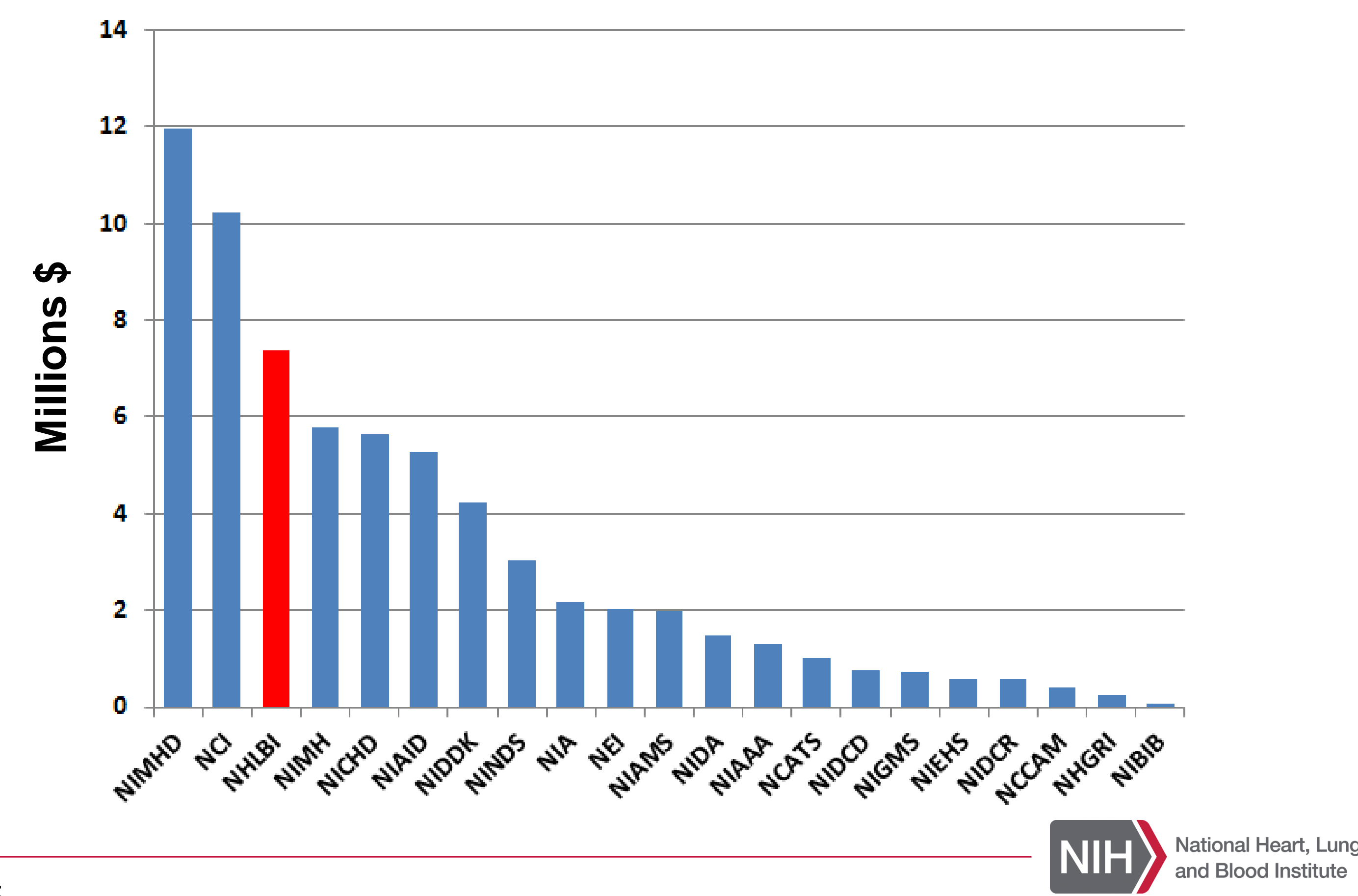
Sandra Colombini Hatch,MD, Xenia Tigno,Ph.D.,Ivan Navarro,Ph.D., James Kiley,Ph.D. Division of Lung Disease, NHLBI

Integrating scientific advances into improved medical practice requires recruitment and retention of talented and dedicated physician scientists. Unfortunately, substantial impediments arise that deter physicians from pursuing an academic career in clinical research, primary among them being the considerable financial debt incurred by the end of medical training.

To encourage physicians to pursue careers in scientific research and to retain those already engaged in research, NIH established the Loan Repayment Program (LRP), which repays up to \$35,000/year of qualified student loan debt, including most undergraduate, graduate and medical school loans. In addition, NIH will cover up to 39% of the Federal tax liability resulting from the loan repayment, and may also provide reimbursement for state and local tax liability. Participants enter into a contract to conduct research for 50% of their time, or not less than 20 hours/week for a 2 year period. The National Heart Lung and Blood Institute strongly supports this program with a substantial financial commitment. In 2014 alone, NHLBI funded over 170 LRP applications totaling slightly over \$9 million.

Here we present an analysis of the NHLBI LRP portfolio from the year 2005 to the year 2014.

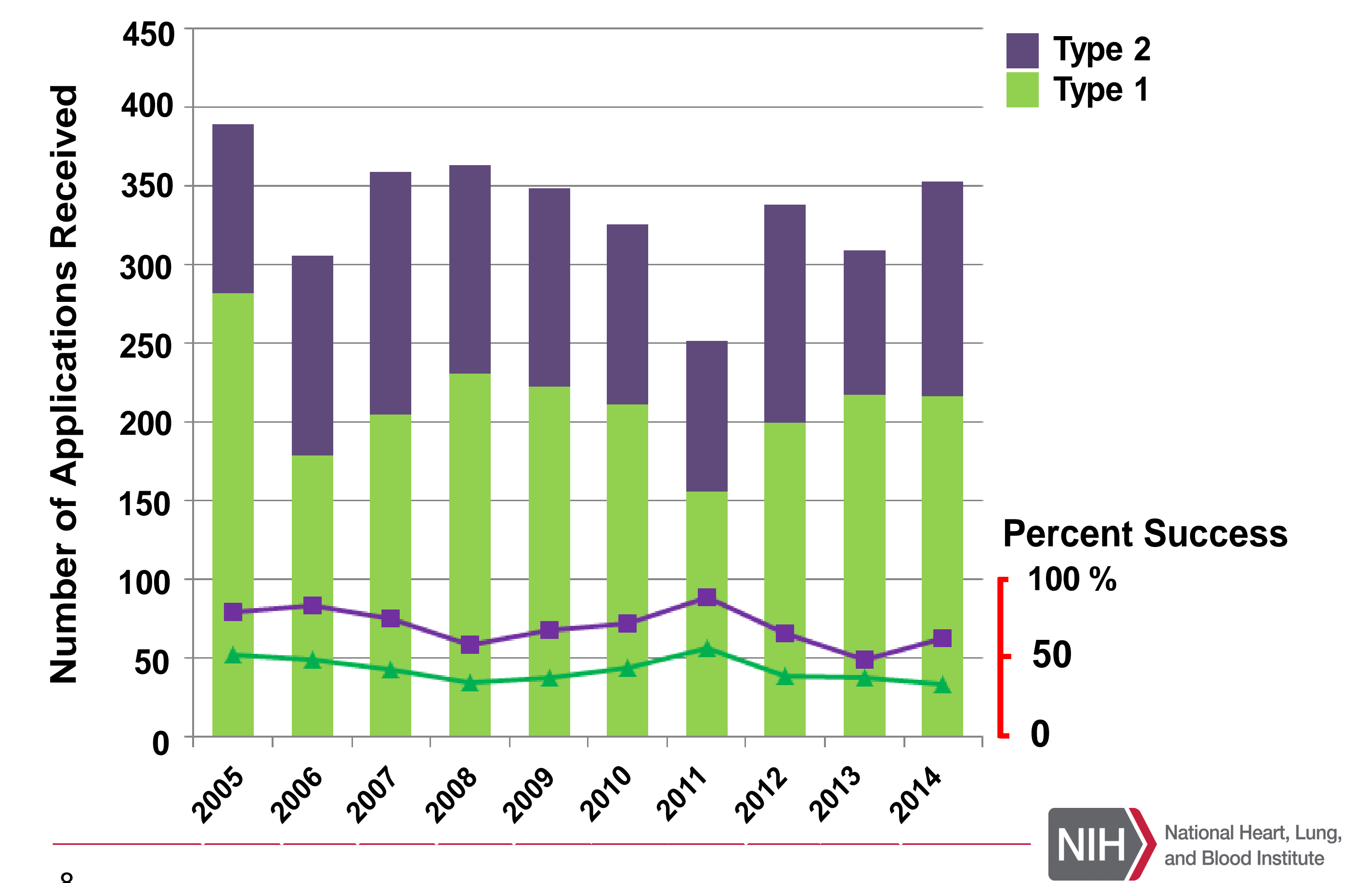
FY2013 - NIH LRP Funding



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The NHLBI is one of the biggest supporters of the LRP

NHLBI LRP Applications and Success Rates

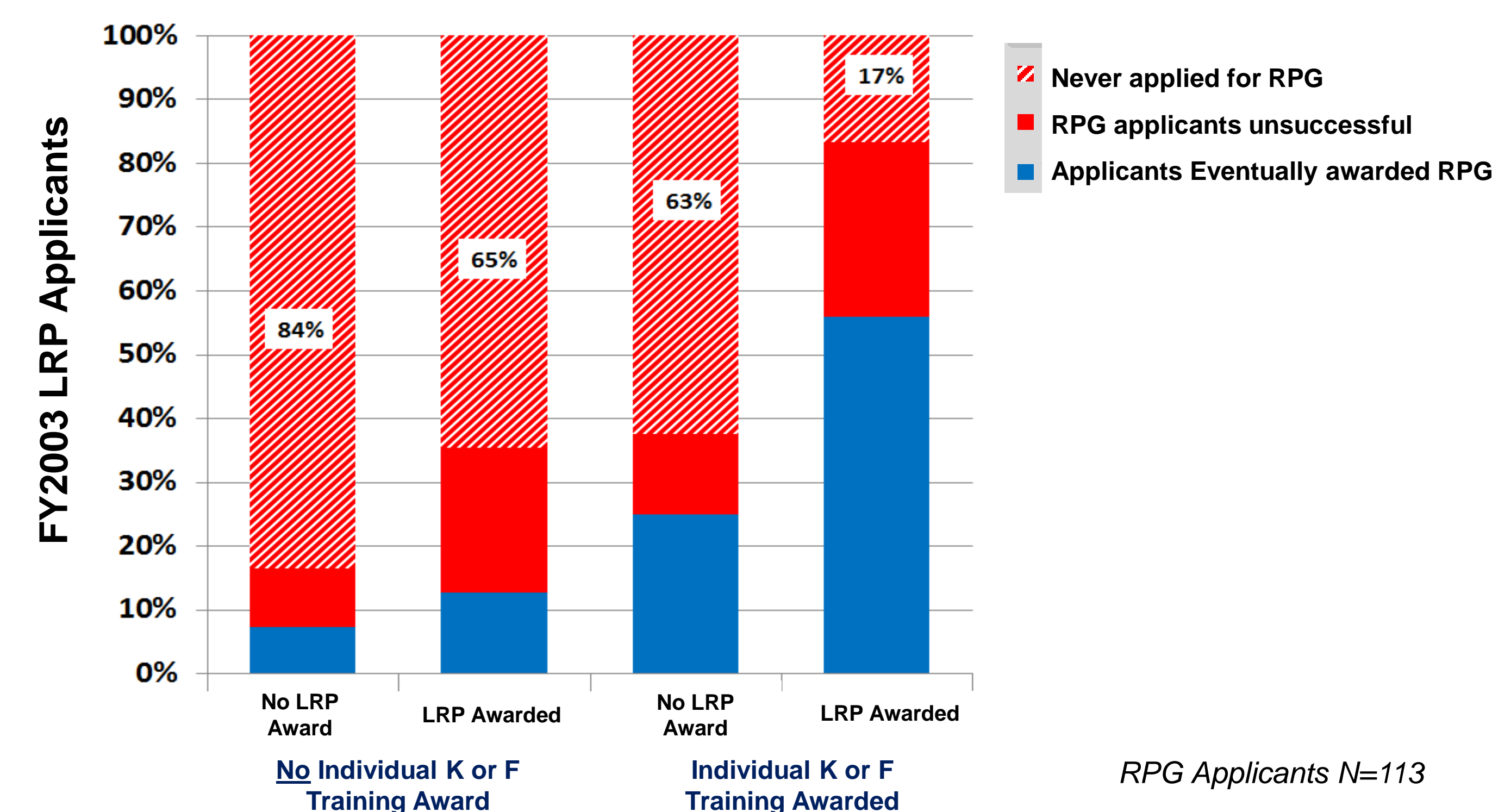


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Funding rate after resubmission is generally very high

Is LRP Funding a Predictor of Success in RPG Funding?

FY2003 Cohort NHLBI LRP Applicants Subsequent RPG Awards

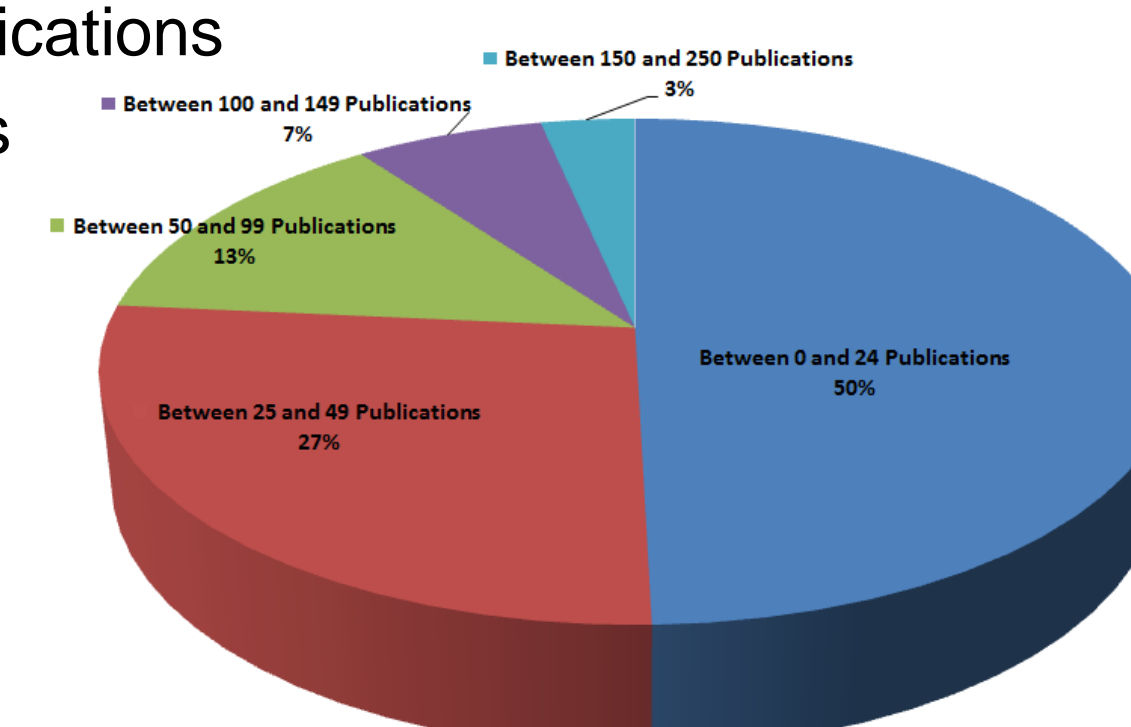


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Publication Record of the 2003 LRP Awardees

Out of 119 members of the 2003 LRP cohort 116 had scientific publications

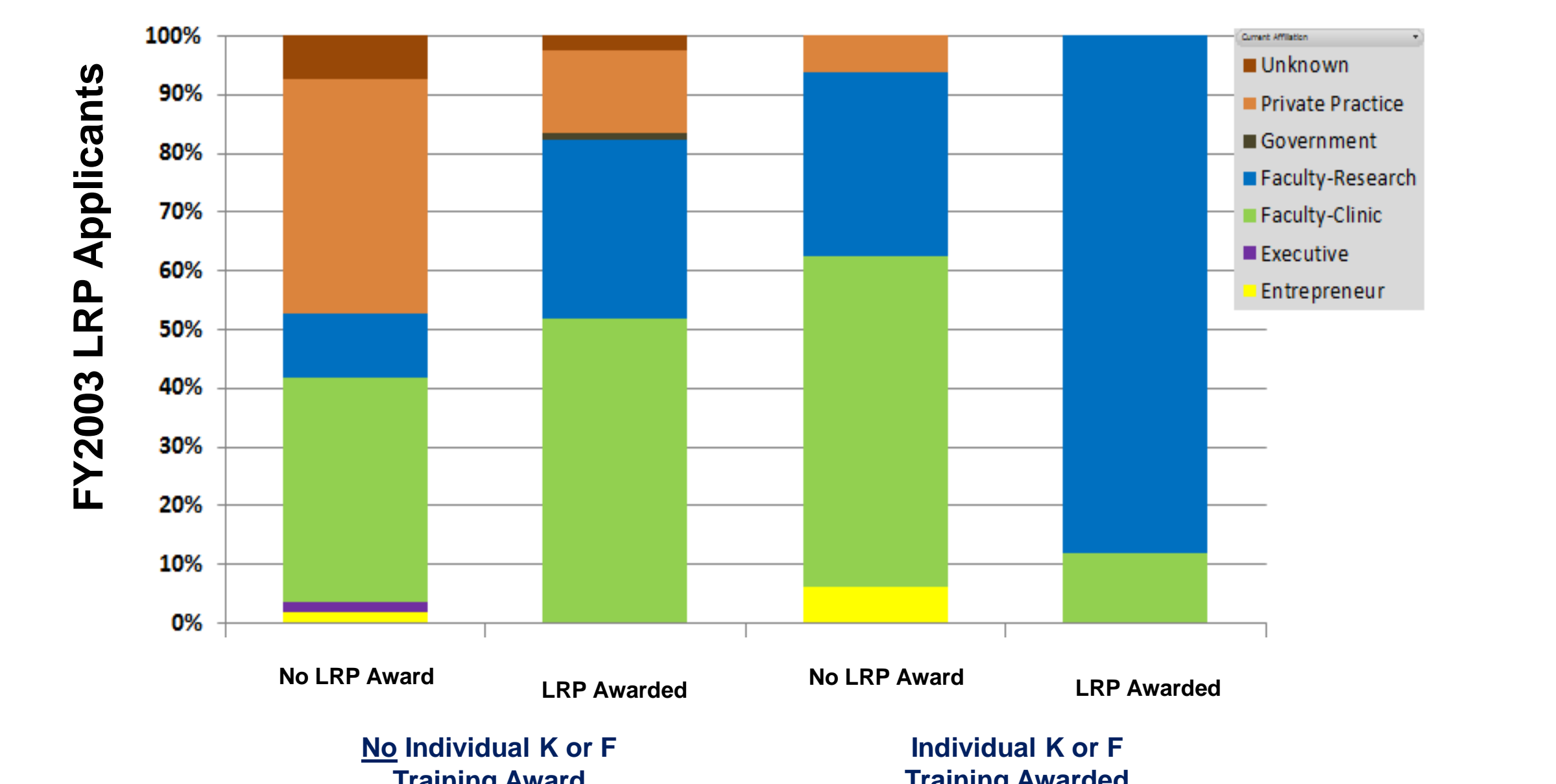
- 99 appear to be still active (last publication in 2013/2014/2015)
- 12 have more than 100 publications
- 16 have between 50 and 100 publications
- 32 have between 25 and 50 publications
- 59 have less than 25 publications
- 17 have no recent publications



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Are the awardees still in Research?

FY2003 Cohort NHLBI LRP Applicants Current Affiliation



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Summary

- LRP Awardees are more likely to apply for RPGs.
- Individual training award recipients are more likely to apply for RPGs and are more successful in obtaining RPG funding.
- LRP applicants need a period of up to 10 years for training and maturation before becoming successful independent investigators.
- LRP awardees are productive and many hold faculty positions.
- A combination of individual research training (F or K) and LRP is the best predictor of subsequent R01 funding.

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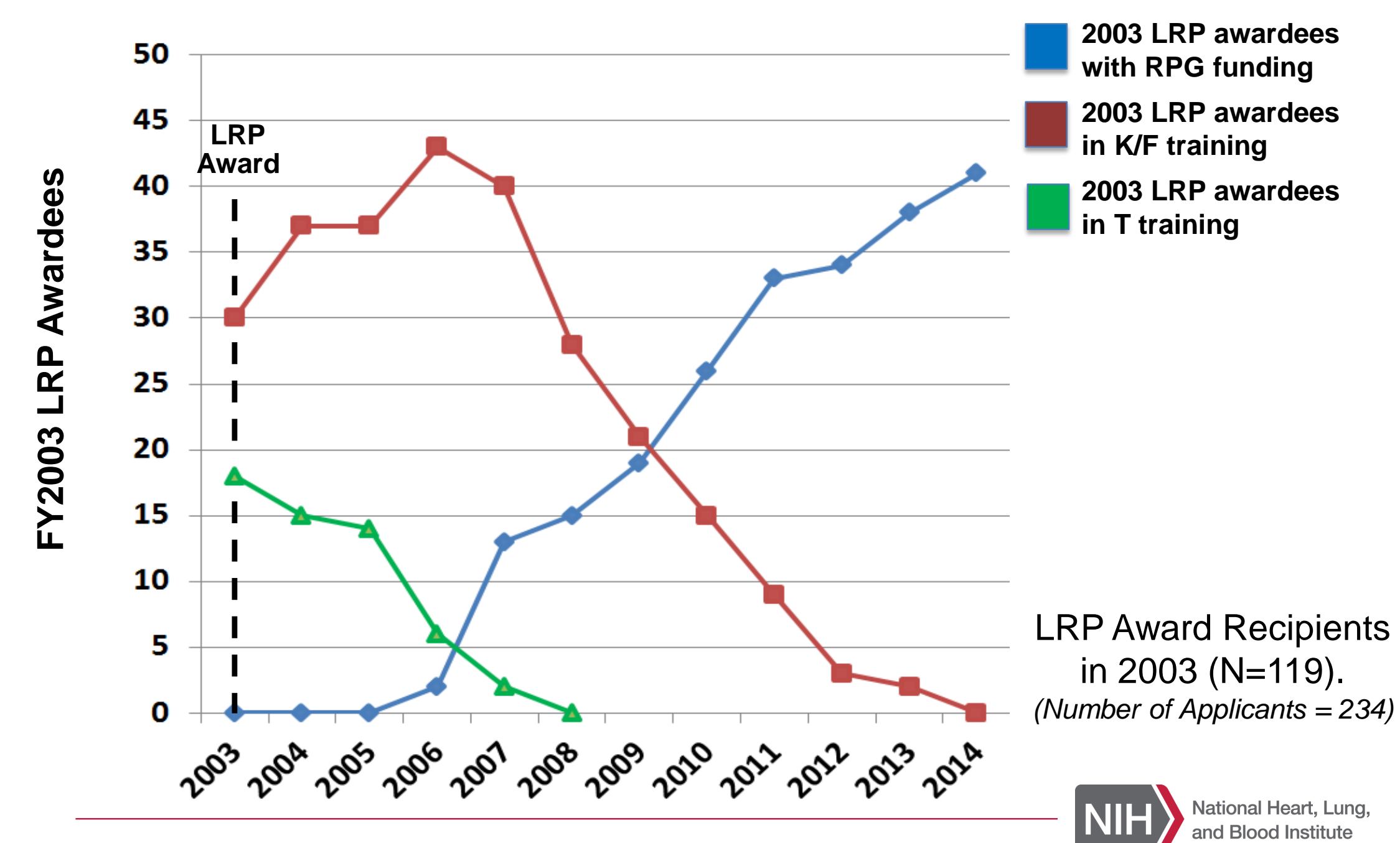
FY2003 – NHLBI LRP Cohort Characteristics

Characteristic	Applicants (%)	Success Rate*
Female	96 (41%)	70%
Male	138 (59%)	71%
MD	194 (83%)	71%
MD/PhD	17 (7%)	76%
PhD	23 (10%)	65%
Clinical	153 (65%)	72%
Pediatric	81 (35%)	68%
Previous F	15 (6%)	60%
Previous K	19 (8%)	79%
No Previous F or K	202 (86%)	71%

*Includes success through subsequent (revised) LRP applications.

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Interval Between LRP and RPG Funding FY2003 NHLBI LRP Cohort



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